

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/803,773

Examiner

John C. Hong

Applicant(s)

CAMACHO ET AL.

Art Unit

3726

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 10/31/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach: a process for replacing a first soft-top of a convertible top of a motor vehicle with a second soft-top comprising the steps of : Regarding Claim(s) 1, removing the first soft-top from the convertible-top; selecting the second soft-top having a window larger than a window of the first soft-top; fixing a plurality of receptacles to an edge of the larger window; attaching the second soft-top to the motor vehicle; and connecting the larger window directly to the headliner by engaging headliner anchors with the receptacles fixed to the larger window; Regarding Claim(s) 11, separating the first soft-top from a headliner of the convertible-top; selecting the second soft-top having a window larger than a window of the first soft-top; fixing a plurality of receptacles to an edge of the larger window, attaching the second soft-top to the motor vehicle', and connecting the larger window directly to the headliner by engaging headliner anchors with the receptacles fixed to the larger window', wherein the fixing step includes the step of aligning the receptacles with the headliner anchors, and the connecting step includes the step of mechanically connecting the receptacles and anchors utilizing a plurality of fasteners; and Regarding Claim(s) 19, e first soft-top; fixing a plurality of receptacles to an edge of the larger window, attaching the second soft-top to the motor vehicle, and connecting the larger window directly to the headliner by engaging headliner anchors with the receptacles fixed to the larger window; wherein the fixing step includes the step of aligning a pocket of each receptacle with a respective one of the headliner anchors, the selecting step includes the step of selecting the larger window and securing the larger window to the second

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soft-top, and the connecting step includes the step of mechanically connecting the receptacles and anchors utilizing a plurality of fasteners, each fastener comprising a flexible clip for hooking, gripping and elastically retaining a respective anchor within a pocket of the respective receptacle with free ends of the clip frictionally retained within the pocket, and each anchor includes a base connected to the headliner and an inverted U-shaped bar connected to the base. in combination with the other elements of the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John C. Hong whose telephone number is 571-272-4529. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(07:00-16:30)First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on 571-272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JCH', with a stylized, cursive flourish extending from the bottom.

John C. Hong
Primary Examiner
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jh
November 13, 2005